

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 1024

Good afternoon, my PR Junior listeners!

Do you have any exciting plans for spring break? For me, it seems like I will be going to school almost every day.

My teacher wants me to study more about tomatoes. We do many tests on tomatoes to learn more about their DNA. I also need to give the tomato plants water about three times a week, so my spring break is very busy.

I hope your spring break is more relaxing. Anyways, see you!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 1024

Hi, everyone! Welcome back to PR 1.

Today let me tell you about Benjamin Franklin.

Benjamin Franklin is a very famous person in American history. He was born in Boston in 1706. His father was a candle maker. He wanted Benjamin to be a candle maker too, but Benjamin was not interested in [it]. His father was worried about Benjamin's future.

He worked in Philadelphia as a printer for many years, but he also liked to invent things. For example, he is famous for inventing a new kind of stove that is now called the Franklin stove.

~~In the~~ Early in 1723, he started the first library in America. Then, around 1750, he started the first hospital. That's why he became famous.

That's all for today. Bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 1024

Hi, guys! Welcome back to PR2.

Take a listen to a piece of news about a Japanese startup [that] created pigs engineered for organ donation. Let's begin

Japanese startup PorMedTec has delivered three newborn piglets genetically engineered to have organs suitable for transplanting into humans.

"We're finally at the starting line for implementing interspecies organ transplants for patients" in Japan, said Hiroshi Nagashima, representative director at PorMedTec. Nagashima also serves as a professor at Meiji University in Tokyo.

PorMedTec received edited pig cells from U.S. biomedical company eGenesis in September. The Japanese startup then inserted the cell nuclei into egg cells later implanted into the uterus, which led to the birth of cloned pigs.

A genetically engineered donor organ from a pig is designed not to be rejected by the body's immune system. A pig kidney developed by eGenesis kept a monkey alive for two years after the transplant.

The company's first target for clinical application is kidneys, where there is a serious shortage of donors. About 350,000 people in Japan undergo dialysis due to kidney failure, which requires visiting the hospital several times a week for several hours of treatment, putting a great strain on the body.

Domestic medical costs for dialysis reach 1.6 trillion yen annually, about 4% of all medical costs in the country.

Receiving a kidney transplant lets patients reduce both hospital visits and restrictions on their daily lives. The waiting list for receiving a kidney transplant in Japan is about 14,000 names, with the average wait time around 15 years. Many die before receiving a transplant.

That's all for today. See you next time!